

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising a first stamper configured to form pits and lands in a non-first layer in a multi-layer optical disc, said pits and lands in the non-first layer defining non-first layer data including an identifier tag which identifies the first stamper as corresponding to a second stamper configured to form pits and lands in a first layer of the disc, said pits and lands in the first layer defining first layer data that are different from the non-first layer. ~~having a content different from a content of the second layer.~~

2. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first layer data comprise ~~pits and lands in the first layer of the disc define data including~~ a table of contents (TOC) for said disc, and wherein the identifier tag comprises at least a portion of the TOC.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the identifier tag comprises a complete copy of the TOC.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the identifier tag comprises a reference value associated with the contents of the disc.

5. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the identifier tag is configured to facilitate identification of a revision level of the first stamper.

6. (Currently amended) An injection molded article formed by the first stamper of claim 1.

7. (Original) A multi-layer optical disc formed from the injection molded article of claim 6.

8. (Original) A multi-layer optical disc, comprising:

a first layer which stores a first set of user data and a table of contents (TOC) for the disc; and

a second layer aligned adjacent the first layer which stores a second set of user data and an identifier tag which identifies the second layer as corresponding to the first layer.

9. (Original) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the identifier tag comprises at least a portion of the TOC.

10. (Original) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the identifier tag comprises a reference value associated with the contents of the disc.

11. (Original) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 10, wherein the reference value is configured to facilitate identification of a revision level of the second level.

12. (Original) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 10, wherein the first layer further stores a second reference value associated with the contents of the disc.

13. (Original) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, further comprising a third layer which stores a third set of user data and a second identifier tag which identifies the third layer as corresponding to the first and second layers.

14. (Original) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the first and second layers are configured such that, during a readback operation, a light beam from an optical pickup impinges upon the first layer to read the first set of data and then passes through the first layer to impinge upon the second layer to read the second set of data.

15. (Original) A stamper used to form the second layer in accordance with claim 8.

16. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

forming a first layer for a multi-layer optical disc which stores a first set of user data

~~portion of the contents of the disc~~ and a table of contents (TOC) for the disc;

and

forming a second layer for the disc configured to be aligned adjacent the first layer

and which stores a second set of user data ~~different, second portion of the~~

~~contents of the disc~~ and an identifier tag which identifies the second layer as corresponding to the first layer.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising attaching the second layer to the first layer.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising forming a third layer for the disc configured to be aligned adjacent the second layer which stores a third set of user data and a second identifier tag which identifies the third layer as corresponding to the first and second layers.

19. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising using the identifier tag to test the second layer apart from the first layer.

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising using the identifier tag to identify a revision level of the second set of user data.

21. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further including said second stamper, wherein the first and second stampers are further configured to be used ~~concurrently~~ to form the respective first and second layers of the disc in a layer fabrication ~~an injection molding~~ process.

Claim 22 (Cancelled).

23. (Previously presented) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the first and second layers are each embedded within the optical disc and separated by an intermediary layer of epoxy.

24. (Previously presented) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the second layer does not store a TOC for the disc.

25. (Currently amended) the multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the first set of data comprises a first program area ~~file~~, and the second set of data comprises a second program area ~~file not located on the first layer~~.

26. (Currently amended) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the disc is configured such that ~~during a read operation upon the disc, the disc is continuously rotated in accordance with a selected velocity profile and, during said continuous rotation,~~ the first and second layers are sequentially read to recover the contents of the disc.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising a step of sequentially reading the first portion and the second portion of the contents of the disc while continuously rotating the disc.

28. (Previously presented) An apparatus comprising:

a first stamper configured to form pits and lands in a first layer of a multi-layer optical disc; and

a second stamper configured to form pits and lands in a second layer of the disc, the second layer comprising an identifier tag which identifies the second stamper as corresponding to the first stamper, the identifier tag comprising a reference value associated with the contents of the disc.

29. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the pits and lands in the first layer of the disc define data including a table of contents (TOC) for said disc, and wherein the identifier tag further comprises at least a portion of the TOC.

30. (Previously presented) An injection molded article formed by the second stamper of claim 28.

31. (Previously presented) A multi-layer optical disc formed from the injection molded article of claim 30.